

## **X. REQUIREMENTS FOR WILDERNESS PROGRAMS**

The general requirements for Residential/Group Home which pertain to the care of children prescribed ~~for residential care agencies under sections of this document~~ shall be followed. In addition, there shall be compliance with the following specific requirements ~~standards~~ for wilderness programs.

Definition - A “wilderness program” means a residential child care program which provides a variety of outdoor activities in a wilderness environment. A wilderness treatment program offers activities that are designed to improve the emotional and behavioral adjustment of the resident participants. (A camp which provides short-term outdoor recreational activities is not considered a wilderness program).

### **A. Admission Requirements:**

Children under ten (10) ~~eight~~ years of age shall not be accepted for care in a wilderness program.

### **B. Staffing Requirements:**

1. Any staff member having full responsibility for supervision of residents must be at least twenty-one (21) years old.
2. The wilderness program shall have at least one (1) regular staff member on duty for every five (5) ~~eight~~ residents. There shall be a sufficient number of qualified staff to give individual attention to each resident’s physical and emotional needs at all times. During special activities, the ratio may need to be increased.
3. Staff shall be located so that at no time are residents out of sight and/or hearing of staff.

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